

REMARKS

Claims 1-95 are pending in the application. Claims 43-44, 46-48, 50, 53-54, 94-95 are allowed.

Claims 1-42, 45, 49-52, and 55-91 are cancelled herein.

Claim 92 is objected to for a minor informality which corrected herein. Typographical errors were also corrected in claims 53 and 54.

Claim 92 is amended to clarify the present invention. No new matter is entered.

Claim 92 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Milton et al. (4,862,452) (Milton). Claim 93 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Milton in view of Gollub (U.S. 4,782,485).

Claim 92 recites an interface unit to convert the data format of control information generated by a control processor into a data format which a switch can exchange when transmitting the control information to an intra-station device. The switch exchanges a fixed-length packet.

The invention of claim 92 presumes that a switch exchanges fixed-length packets and is characterized in that control information is converted into a fixed-length packet.

It is respectfully submitted that Milton fails to disclose the interface unit of claim 92. Also, Milton may disclose A/D conversion and serial/parallel conversion, but Milton entirely fails to disclose that control information is converted into a fixed-length packet.

With regard to the interface unit of claim 92, the claim recites converting the data format of control information generated by the control processor into a data format which the switch can exchange, a data format of the fixed-length packet. The control information generated by said

control processor is sent from interface unit to said intra-station device through said switch after the data format of the control information is converted.

Because of the unique combination of features in claim 92, the control information can be transferred to the intra-station device through the switch.

Milton discloses A/D conversion and D/A conversion in col. 2, lines 21 through 35, and also discloses serial/parallel conversion in col. 5, lines 19 through 27. Thus Milton only discloses a function to convert a data format (or signal) is an A/D conversion and D/A conversion and also serial/parallel conversion.

However, Milton fails to describe the converting a data format of the control information into a data format of the fixed-length packet which said switch can exchange, as recited in claim 92. Additionally this feature would not have been obvious in view of the reference since there is no suggestion of any desire or motivation for such a feature.

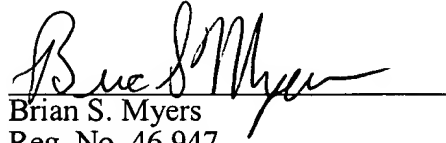
For at least the foregoing reasons it is respectfully requested the rejection of claim 92 be withdrawn.

With regard to claim 93, Gollub is cited to show that the feature of control information communicated according to link access protocol is well known. However it is respectfully submitted Gollub does not describe the distinguish features of at least the interface unit of applicant's claim 93. This feature is not suggested by the combination of references, therefore it is respectfully requested the rejection of claim 93 be withdrawn.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,


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